



The Florida Association of Hostage Negotiators  
PO Box 351904  
Jacksonville, FL 32235



Board Meeting  
September 27, 2016

I. Welcome

II. Roll Call

Executive Board

President	Adam Goodner
Vice President	Luis Prats Martinez
Treasurer	Jay Leiner
Secretary	Michael Meissner
Ambassador At-Large	Heath Jackson
Sergeant At Arms	Gene Bernal
Training Director	Judy Couwels
Chaplain	Rusty Burns

Regional Directors

Region 1	Patrick Frazier
Region 2	Laura Varble
Region 3	Sheldon York
Region 4	James Parker
Region 5	Brian Bilbrey
Region 6	Franklin Cowart (Not Present)
Region 7	Jay Carver
Region 8	Leo Nimzick
Region 9	Tony Farah
Region 10	Fernando Gajate

Past Presidents In Attendance

Past President	Butch Jones
Past President	Jim McDonald
Past President	Mary Olsen
Past President	Lorenzo Waiters



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### III. Adoption of Agenda

### IV. President's Report

#### a. Past Conference

- i. Total attendance at 257.
- ii. Feedback sheets show 98% of attendees rated the conference as a 4 or 5 out of 5.
- iii. Certification course rated at 100% positive response.  
Additional comments advised this was a selling point for attendees and their agencies.
- iv. 96.5% said they would attend next year's conference in St. Petersburg.
- v. Caliber Press received high marks.
- vi. Breakout Sessions also rated highly.
- vii. Negatives
  1. Hospitality suite not rated highly – change in direction toward networking to continue with possible off-site location for other activities.
- viii. Net income for the organization as a result of the conference of 23K
- ix. Additional work on sponsorships ongoing.sdf

### V. Officer's Reports

- Vice President
  - Currently working on 2017 conference agenda and speakers agreements.
  - Soliciting suggestions for speakers and topics.
- Treasurer
  - Account balance \$83,651.00
    - \$40K in CD
    - Reserves allow for pre-payment of bills associated with next year's conference and regional training.
    - This will also help with liability coverage.
    - Total conference expenditures \$47,270.44
    - Year's income was \$70,338.75 of which \$14,000.00 was



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LET funds and \$3,000.00 from Kissimmee Experience.

- Secretary
  - Membership currently at 502 Active members
  - Updating Regional Training sites as received from Training Coordinator and posted
  - Regional training registration and payment online.
- Sergeant at Arms
  - Positive results of LET fund contribution – will disseminate a letter to be used as a template for the organization members to use in writing to their agencies.
  - Discussed possibility of initiating group memberships for next year.
- Ambassador at Large
  - Most vendors are returning and searching for new vendors.
  - LRAD coming back
  - Looking to sign Safariland and Intrepid Networks
  - Review of payment by vendors will be needed.
- Training Director
  - Training Sessions
    - Requested directors need to send in their announcements.
    - Brief review of funds available to the regional directors.
- Past Presidents Report
  - Mary Olsen
    - Discussed membership area on the website to hold presentations and reference documents.
  - Jim McDonald
    - Discussed Committee of Statewide Standardization
      - Review of FDLE Standards
      - NICNA Standards
  - Butch Jones
    - Expressed appreciation to board members for their work in setting up and running the new web application.
- Regional Directors
  - Region 1 – Regional training planned - FBI presentation and scenario-based sessions. -
  - Region 2 – Currently in planning for fall training utilizing



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scenario-based training by Jim McDonald at FSU's stadium.

- Region 3 – Planned training on December 15 involving negotiations with millennials.
- Region 4 – Finalizing date for training in Gainesville involving classroom training in the morning and scenario-based training in the PM.
- Region 5
  - Positive report on training session by Dr. Tina Jaeckle
  - Competition in Tampa in Sept 28, 29 involving departments throughout Florida
  - Upcoming joint meetings with FAHN and BANG
- Region 6 – Not Present
- Region 7 – Training Planned for November 21, 2016 – PTSD and Suicide sessions
- Region 8 – Training scheduled for November 9 at New Horizons Hospital.
- Region 9 – FBI Crisis Negotiations and back-to-back sessions – November 7, 2016.
- Region 10 - “Murder by Numbers: Perspectives on Serial Sexual Violence” and back-to-back scenarios – October 19, 2016.



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## **VI. New Business**

- a. Conference Planning
  - i. Discussion regarding anticipating keynote speaker and other potential speakers.
  - ii. Preparation of verbiage for website
  - iii. Review of door prize procedures and other give-away items.
  - iv. Lanyard selection made
  - v. New shirt for conference selected
- b. Amazon non-profit program application voted on – passed unanimously.
- c. Membership Dues and Regional Training
  - i. (Membership fees were previously determined to be required for regional training during the March board meeting).-
  - ii. By a unanimous vote membership payment was reaffirmed and renewals were confirmed to be through June 1 of the following year.
  - iii. The Sergeant At Arms will write up any needed modifications to charter to conform to this direction.
- d. Conference Attendance and cancellations
  - i. Cancellation policy will be clarified as requiring sufficient time to process the cancellation before the conference starts.
    1. No cancellations within last 30 days.
    2. No substitutions within last week.
    3. Cancellation fees TBD.
- e. Voting Rights
  - i. Discussion of voting rights of former organization presidents and regional directors. How to balance the board's responsibilities and ensure inclusion.
  - ii. President Goodner submitted a proposal to grant each Regional Director a vote equal to that of the executive board.
    1. Argument for – Inclusion of regional directors who are most involved in the dissemination of training to the regions and are actively involved in the conference.
    2. Argument against – Decentralization of responsibility of board to more transient positions given executive board members had a longer-term view of the organization.
    3. The measure was affirmed and language will be prepared



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to amend the bilaws.

- Next Board Meeting Conference call Dec 6, 2016 @ 1400hrs.